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New Gout Medicine Doing Well In Test Trials

A new **gout medicine** known as Ilaris continues to be confirmed as successful in lowering patients' pain and reducing the chance of new gout attacks, and has already applied for approval to be used in the U.S., according to Novartis.

Ilaris contains a compound known as ACZ885 which is shown in two different scientific studies to give superior **gout pain** relief and lessen the chance of new attacks in gout patients by as much as 68 percent. Novartis said the studies showed more than 450 patients taking Ilaris, or ACZ885, had less pain and the risk of new attacks were reduced by up to 68 percent compared to those taking an injectable steroid to treat gouty arthritis attacks, which can last for a week or more.

According to Novartis, the monoclonal antibody in Ilaris blocks an inflammatory protein called interleukin-1 beta. The drug has been filed for approval in the European Union, U.S., Canada and Switzerland. The drug is already approved in several countries to treat a rare, inflammatory disorder known as Cryopyrin-Associated Periodic Syndromes (CAPS).

"We are very excited about these results, which indicate that ACZ885 may become a significant new alternative for gouty arthritis patients," said David Epstein, head of the pharmaceuticals division at Novartis, as quoted by Fox News. Gouty arthritis, or gout, affects about 1.4 percent of the population in the U.K. and 3.9 percent in the U.S.

References

Novartis Media Releases

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